

Dear Parents,

This week we have had a fantastic week getting ready for Chanukah. We also continued our topic 'What's Up There', thinking about space. For our topic of Kindness we put together a class assembly with the theme – "Colour your world with kindness". We worked in groups. One group wrote a poem about what kindness means to them; another group introduced a video which showed a grey world, turning different colours following kind acts; a third group wrote 7 antonyms with negative words in grey and their opposite positive word in a colour, they spoke about the impact of these words on friendships and others around us. The final group spoke about how every day is like a clean canvas and how we can paint our canvas in bright colours by doing kind acts.

English – The children continued reading 'Space Case' by Stuart Gibb. They completed their stories solving the murder of Dr Holtz. We discussed the difference between proof-reading, editing and redrafting. We expect all children to proof-read their work (check work closely for basic grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors) before handing it in. Our spellings were ance, ancy, ence, ency. The words of the week were evidence, sentence, confidence, appliance, attendance, appearance, pregnancy, expectancy, emergency, agency. Please continue to practise these spelling words and use them in context. Keep working on the joined handwriting and presentation too. We also shared further book recommendations and encouraged the children to choose two books from the school library, one to read at home and one to read in school.

Maths – This week we have been calculating the mean. The children found the mean height of some sunflowers and also added up the ages of 5 children from the class in months and then divided by 5 to find out the mean age of the group. We have also been looking at how to order and compare fractions by finding common denominators.

Topic – The children continued to learn about Space – this week they were looking at the seasons and found out about Tromsø in Norway which remains dark throughout the day during winter and light during the night in the summer. They found out why this is and thought about what life would be like there. We have also been listening to "The Four Seasons" by Vivaldi and creating our own four seasons artwork in our sketch books. In our Brain Buddies sessions they thought about the different Zones of Regulation and put together tool boxes or "Calming Kits" to help them if they are ever in the red zone. We worked on our Chanukah door which will be seen from outside. This year it has a space theme.

JS – In Jewish Studies this week we continued to prepare for Chanukah by completing our chanukiot and the children used glue guns to attach the candle holders themselves. We also perfected our new verse with a new tune of Maoz Tzur. We learned about Hellenism and why that was an attractive culture and we debated the issues at the heart of the Chanukah battle - the right to one's own identity and religion when you live in a different culture. The children also continued to work on their Hebrew reading.

Ivrit - This week Year 6 carried on with the topic 'My bedroom'. The key vocabulary includes: מדף (Madaf – shelf) מגירה (Megera – drawer) מנורה (Menora – lamp) שטיח (Shatiach – carpet) דלת (Delet – door) חלון (Chalon – window) ארון (Aron – cupboard) שולחן (Shulchan – table) מיטה (Mita – bed) מראה (Maraa – mirror) פח (Pach – bin) חדר (Cheder – room) מיטות (Mitot – beds) ארונות (Aronot – cupboards) מדפים (Madafim – shelves) מנורות (Menorot – lamps) דלתות (Dlatot – doors) חלונות (Chalonot – windows) שטיחים (Shtichim – carpets) בתוך (Betch – inside) ב (Be – in) ליד (Leiad – next to) על (Al – on top) מתחת (Mitachat – underneath). The names of the colours used in this topic are: כחול (Kachol – blue), חום (Chum – brown), כתום (Katom – orange) אפור (Afor – grey), שחור (Shachor – black), אדום (Adom – red), ירוק (Yarok – green), סגול (Sagol – purple), ורוד (Varod – pink), לבן (Lavan – white), צהוב (Tzahov – yellow) and תכלת (Tchelet – turquoise).

The class started learning the song כִּךְ נִלְדָּה הַצִּבֵּעַ: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VT1R37o-d3I>

Reminders

In these dark early evenings, please can students be reminded of how to stay safe and where possible:

- Walk on main roads
- Keep to well-lit routes home
- Walk in a group or with a friend
- Tell a trusted adult if they feel unsafe

KS1 children should not be playing on or around the playground equipment before or after school, whilst waiting for older siblings.

Please ensure your child has their blue diary each day.

Tzedakah is collected every Friday and it would be wonderful if children could bring some in or if you could donate using ParentPay

.All boys need a spare kippah in their tray and all children need a non-uniform cap in their tray too.

Please remember to enter the PSA Name the Bear Competition and the raffle

Things we could do at home:

The children should be reading their scheme books aloud every evening. Please ask them comprehension questions about the text they are reading and date and sign the blue diary each time. The children should also be reading their 'home' books. The school library books can be changed or renewed on Wednesdays.

Please talk to your child about books. We have so many amazing books in our school library for older readers. Encourage them to select a library book and invest time in reading. You can even browse our selection on Junior Librarian:

<https://juniorclassic.microlibrarian.net/?customerid=U020627&loggedin=OGFXdk8xejQzSGtNd2hpcVNVbytlWHoxZUVVWSFpPYnRNYWtEcGpjeExPST0> Please see Seesaw for the Username and Password.

Ask your child questions about the book they are reading (remember VIPERS - Vocabulary / Inference / Prediction / Explanation / Retrieval / Summarise)

Magic Spell has been updated with this week's spelling focus. Please ensure your children are logging in and practising.

Mathletics has also been updated with this week's focus, please ensure the children are logging in and practising.

Play games like "Articulate" and "Taboo" or "Absolute Balderdash" which all encourage children to use their imagination and develop their vocabulary and play card games and board games

The Raspberry Pi Foundation have launched a free Learn at Home initiative to support parents and young people with coding resources at home. You don't need any coding experience to join in, and all of their resources and activities are free forever.

- Get involved with their space challenge, **Astro Pi Mission Zero** in partnership with the European Space Agency, **where young people can send a message to the International Space Station!**
- **Every Wednesday** their team of educators host a digital making live stream to inspire and teach young people about getting creative with technology.
- They provide **over 200 coding projects** you can follow on any computer, with themes from looking after yourself to protecting the planet. All with step-by-step instructions, accessible online at any time, for free! Simply **visit their website** to get started right away!

Watch and discuss the news with your child

If you are interested in the planets then visit this website - <https://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/visible-planets-tonight-mars-jupiter-venus-saturn-mercury> . It shows you where the planets are in the sky.

Go on virtual tours of museums eg <https://www.rmg.co.uk/whats-on/solar-system-discovery-virtual-planetarium-show>

Our week's attendance was 94.29%. Weekly attendance needs to be over 96%.

Shabbat Shalom

The Year 6 team